

UNCLASSIFIED

Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

9789

PAGE 01
ACTION ARA-15

BUENOS 01911 081511Z

3/5/80
A1067

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 H-01 HA-05 SY-05 IO-14 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 /051 W

R 051437Z MAR 80
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4500:

DECONTROL

BUENOS AIRES 1911

E.O. 12055: N/A
TAGS: SHUM AR
SUBJ: CARLOS HUGO CAPITMAN (409/78/6)

REF: STATE 054789

1. WE HAVE NOW TALKED WITH CAPITMAN'S FATHER. HE STATED THAT HIS SON IS AMONG THE DISAPPEARED, AND IS, IN HIS OPINION, DEAD.

2. ACCORDING TO THE FATHER, THE BOY WAS ARRESTED MARCH 28, 1976. THE FATHER STATES THAT HIS SON WAS ACTIVE ONLY IN RADICAL PARTY POLITICS. AT THE TIME OF HIS DETENTION THREE OTHER PEOPLE WERE PICKED UP IN THE SAME OPERATION. OF THESE, HIS SON AND A GIRL ARE STILL MISSING. THE TWO OTHERS, WHO WERE HELD WITH CAPITMAN AND THE GIRL, WERE FREED ON APRIL 14 OF THE SAME YEAR.

3. FOLLOWING HIS SON'S ARREST, THE FATHER SUBMITTED A HABEAS CORPUS PETITION. THE GOVERNMENT ANSWERED IT ON APRIL 30, 1976, WITH THE INFORMATION THAT THE BOY WAS BEING HELD UNDER PEN. SUBSEQUENT EFFORTS BY THE FAMILY TO LOCATE THE YOUNGER CAPITMAN WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. THEN, IN RESPONSE TO A LEGAL ACTION, THE COMMANDER OF THE FIRST ARMY NOTIFIED THE FAMILY THAT THE BOY HAD BEEN FREED ON SEPTEMBER 9, 1976 AT A SMALL SUBURBAN POLICE STATION FAR FROM HIS PLACE OF ARREST. THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR ALSO OFFICIALLY DROPPED ALL CHARGES AGAINST HIM. HOWEVER, THE LOCAL POLICE STATION WHERE CAPITMAN ALLEGEDLY REGAINED HIS FREEDOM HAS NO RECORD OF THIS OCCURENCE --- IN FACT, THE STATION'S RECORDS WERE DESTROYED IN A TERRORIST ATTACK AFTER SEPTEMBER 9, 1976.

4. THE ELDER CAPITMAN TOLD US THAT HE IS CONVINCED THAT HIS SON IS DEAD --- A VIEW HE CLAIMED TO HAVE MADE CLEAR TO RABBI ROSENTHAL. THE GOA CLAIM THAT THE BOY WAS RELEASED AT A POLICE STATION FAR REMOVED FROM THE PLACE OF HIS ARREST, WHOSE RECORDS WERE DESTROYED, IS NOT BELIEVEABLE. HE POINTS OUT. MOREOVER, IN HIS VIEW, HAD THE SECURITY FORCES NOT KILLED HIS SON, THE GOA WOULD HAVE HAD NO REASON NOT TO RELEASE HIM, AS THEY CLAIM TO HAVE DONE. AT THIS POINT, CAPITMAN SAID, WHAT HE DEMANDS TO KNOW IS WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED TO HIS SON AND TO HAVE THE GOA RETURN HIS BODY.

5. SENATOR CHAFFEE'S OFFICE NOTIFIED VIA H-PASS
(BUENOS AIRES 1910).
CASTRO

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full DECONTROL

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

UNCLASSIFIED

LOT 82D177

BOX 8114 (2/21)